

Privileged to Serve

Moving Milwaukee County *FORWARD* Together



THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER FROM SUPERVISOR STEVE F. TAYLOR

October 2016



MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

901 N. 9th Street, RM 201

Milwaukee, WI 53233

P: (414) 278-4267

F: (414) 223-1380

steve.taylor@milwaukeecountywi.gov

www.county.milwaukee.gov/
Taylor

COUNTY

ASSIGNMENTS:

Board of Supervisors,
2nd Vice-Chairman

Chairman

Economic & Community
Development

Parks, Energy & Environment

Milwaukee County
Commission on Aging

Milwaukee Regional
Innovation Center

Milwaukee Child Welfare
Partnership Council

Dear Friends,

On October 3rd, the County Executive delivered his 2016 Recommended Budget, totaling \$1.18 billion, to the County Board. Currently, the Board's Finance and Audit Committee is deliberating the Recommended Budget. You can view the [2017 Recommended Budget here](#).

There were a few items that immediately jumped out at me. The first being a \$60 wheel tax which would apply to every registered vehicle in Milwaukee County. The Executive plans to use this fee to raise approximately \$27 million to fill part of a \$36 million dollar deficit. The other items of note are his desire to implement a \$15 minimum wage for all County employees as well as his proposal to raise the tax levy.



Supervisor Taylor speaking at a press conference calling attention to the issue of domestic violence in Milwaukee County.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and I am honored to co-sponsor a resolution that recognizes this as well as provide my support to a new initiative called "Keep Us Safe". It is extremely important for us to take action to reduce domestic violence and intimate partner violence as I have seen firsthand the effects it has had on women, children, and their families.

Please feel free to contact my office with any concerns you have, especially if you were unable to make my two Town Hall Meetings. As I have stated in the past, it is an honor to serve you and together with your help I am certain we can move Milwaukee County forward.

All My Best,

MILWAUKEE COUNTY 2017 BUDGET

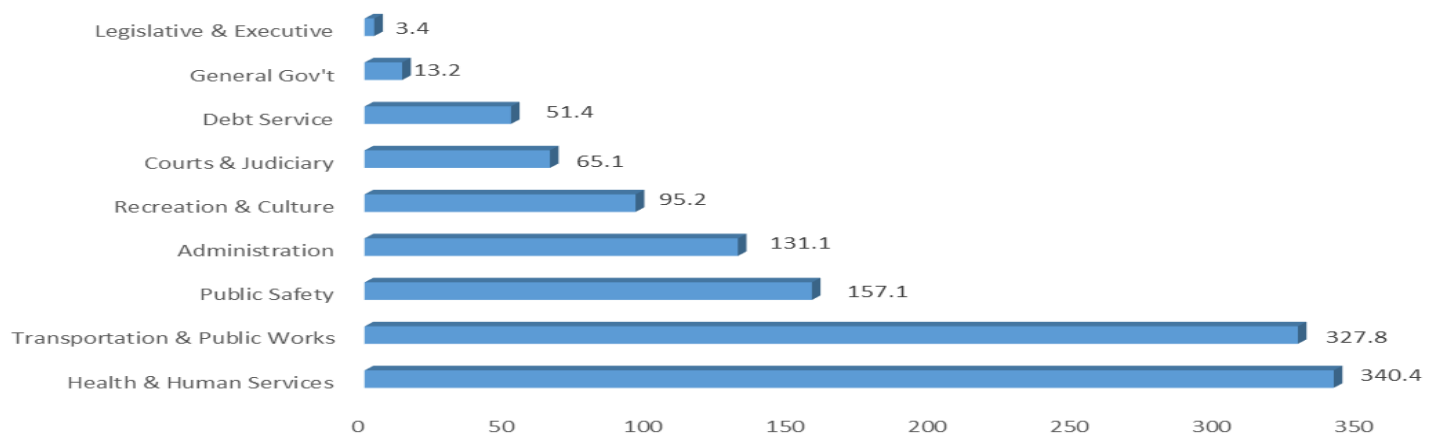
On Friday, September 30, County Executive Chris Abele released his 2017 Milwaukee County recommended budget to the public; the following Monday, October 3, he presented it to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. The 2017 recommended budget calls for total expenditures of \$1,189,597,484, a decrease of over \$184 million from the 2015 budget, or a 13.44% decrease. The recommended property tax levy is \$286,985,125, an increase of over \$4.1 million, or 1.46%.

Direct revenue is Milwaukee County's largest revenue source, despite a decrease of about 38%, at \$392.1 million. The tax levy follows at \$291 million, while state shared and other state revenue stands at a combined \$274.8 million.

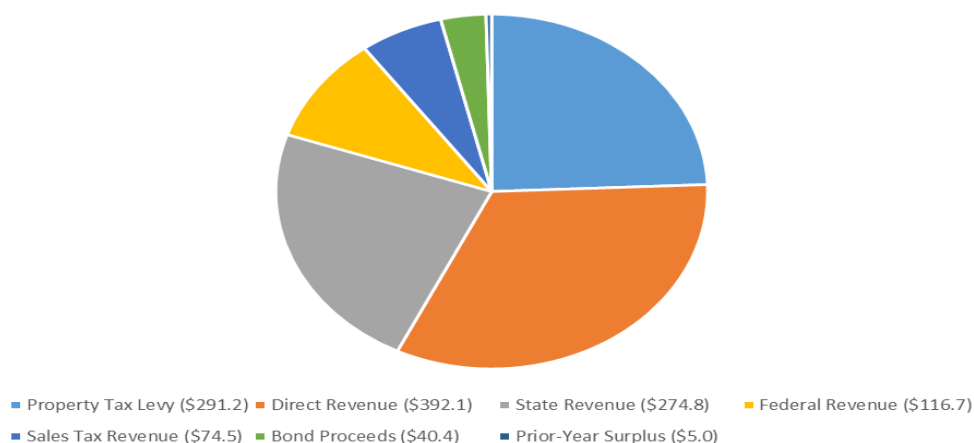
As of this writing, the Board's Finance & Audit Committee is deliberating and amending the proposed budget. Health & Human Services is Milwaukee County's largest expenditure at \$340.4 million. The Department of Family Care will complete the transition away from the County resulting in an expenditure and revenue reduction of \$303.8 million. Transportation & Public Works totals \$327.7 million and Public Safety, which includes the Sheriff's Office, amounts to the third-largest proposed budget allocation at \$156.95 million. The proposed budget is also unbalanced and contains a \$2.5 million hole. Furthermore, it functions under the assumption that a new \$60 countywide Vehicle Registration Fee (VRF) will be adopted and used as a new source of revenue despite the VRF not being voted on yet.

The proposed budget will be amended by the Milwaukee County Supervisors and adopted on November 7. Possible vetoes will be considered on November 14. The County Board of Supervisors will also hold its annual public budgeting hearing on Monday, October 31st at 6:00 p.m. at the Marcus Center on 929 N. Water Street.

Milwaukee County Expenditures (in millions)



2017 Proposed County Budget



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS



Supervisor Taylor pictured while Milwaukee County resident and domestic violence survivor Shelley Janowski speaks at last month's press conference in support of domestic violence awareness.

quoted as saying "I have witnessed the effects domestic abuse has had on a woman who is a mother, a daughter, a sister, and an aunt...so, today, I am choosing to fight back against domestic violence and will use the power of my office to officially put all abusers on notice that their reign of terror is coming to an end." Shelley Janowski, a survivor of abuse and advocate also stood at the press conference; she said, "I prefer not to say that I am a victim, but rather that I am a fighter against the crime of domestic violence because I fight for my survival and daughter's survival every day." Supervisor Taylor is looking forward to working towards any future efforts to prevent and end domestic violence.

On October 12, Supervisor Taylor stood with his colleague, Supervisor Sequanna Taylor, and various other individuals who have been affected by domestic violence in some way, shape, or form. The press conference was used to announce a resolution recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month as part of the "Keep Us Safe" initiative. Furthermore, the resolution invited community members to wear the color purple on Thursday, October 20th and use the hashtag #PurpleThursday to honor victims and show support for survivors of domestic violence.

Supervisor Taylor co-sponsored his colleague from the second district's resolution and joined the call to bring the issue of domestic violence to the fore of the public conscience. Supervisor Taylor was

LEGAL CUSTODY AND PHYSICAL PLACEMENT STUDY SERVICES

On October 20, 2016, Supervisor Taylor offered a resolution before the Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Committee. His resolution aimed to develop a plan for the implementation of legal custody and physical placement study services, thereby bring Milwaukee County Family Court into compliance with Wisconsin State Statute 767.405. The statute provides that a county shall provide legal custody and physical placement study services whenever legal custody or physical placement of a minor child is contested. Furthermore, a legal custody and physical placement study is to take into account the conditions of a child's home and any other matter relevant to the best interest of the child. Previously, Milwaukee County's Family Court has been unable to provide this state mandated service as a result of budget constraints.

Supervisor Taylor praised the committee's decision to approve his resolution and said "When I heard that Milwaukee County wasn't following State Statutes, I was appalled. Having a social worker involved in a case where child abuse, parental alienation, and domestic violence is occurring is necessary because they have the training and expertise required to navigate these complicated situations. Unfortunately, Guardian Ad Litem's are not required to have the same level of training as social workers and I have witnessed firsthand what happens when they don't. This will go a long way in helping families, especially children, avoid long and drawn out cases.



Supervisor Taylor pictured testifying with Chief Judge Maxine White and Family Court Commissioner Ana Berrios-Schroeder at the Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Committee meeting. Supervisor Taylor's resolution was approved by a 4-0 vote.

OAK CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Supervisor Taylor went to Oak Creek Middle School during the month of October to visit Ms. Karisa Mantey's 8th grade class. During his visit, he spoke to the students about his local government job as a County Supervisor representing Milwaukee County's 9th District which includes Oak Creek, as well as Franklin and Hales Corners. He spoke to the class about the work he does in conjunction with the rest of the Supervisors on the Milwaukee County Board in functioning as the County's legislative branch of government and how his branch of county government is in charge of producing and adopting legislation, similar to the legislature on a state level.



TOWN HALL MEETINGS



Supervisor Taylor speaking at his Oak Creek town hall meeting.

Supervisor Taylor hosted two town hall meetings on Monday, October 24th. He held one in Oak Creek at the City Hall Common Council Chambers and the other in Hales Corners at Boerner Botanical Gardens in the Garden Room, both of which were open to any and all members of the public.

Every year, Supervisor Taylor hosts anywhere from two to three town halls during the month of October in order to receive input on behalf of the constituents of the 9th District regarding the County Executive's annual budget proposal. Supervisor Taylor very much values the public's input on budgetary items because they are the ones that he represents and that trust him with putting their hard-earned tax dollars back into the 9th District.

Perhaps the most hot-button topic that arose during the town halls was the County Executive's proposal to implement a new \$60 Vehicle Registration Fee specific to Milwaukee County. The majority of public response to this new wheel tax has been overwhelmingly negative, as evidenced by multiple e-mails and phone calls on behalf of constituents in addition to all of those who spoke at the two town hall meetings. Once again, Supervisor Taylor values the public input he has received and will keep it in mind during the upcoming budget adoption.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

The next meeting of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors is scheduled for Thursday, November 3rd in Courthouse Room 200.

The next edition of *Privileged to Serve* will feature a full recap of the upcoming November County Board meeting. To view the votes on all actions taken by the County Board and its committees, please visit the [Milwaukee County Legislative Information Center](#).



China Lights

Boerner, Brighter Than Ever

OCTOBER 1-30, 2016 (Closed Mondays)
SPECIAL VIP PREVIEW NIGHT SEPTEMBER 29TH



ADMISSION:

PREVIEW NIGHT	\$100
FBBG Members	\$50
SEASON PASS	\$45
FBBG Members	\$22.50
ADULT (age 18-59)	\$15.00
CHILD (5-17)	\$10.00
INFANT (under 5)	FREE
SENIOR (60+)	\$10.00
VIP TICKET	\$30.00

(VIP package includes: Backstage Tour at 6:00pm or 7:30pm, Lantern & Mobile Guide. The 6:00 pm VIP Tour includes parade participation)

Dazzling lantern sculptures, beautiful art, incredible performances, and delicious food will bring the gardens to life at night!

Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens (FBBG)
MEMBERS SAVE 50%!

Preview Night tickets only \$50 with membership

Purchase online at www.chinalights.org

(FBBG members use promo code: friends)

Or at Boerner admission desk with member ID

Not a FBBG member yet?

Click [here](#) or call 414-525-5653



WEHR NATURE CENTER

Glacial Ghosts

Saturday, November 5th, 9:00 – 11:00 am

The Ice Age lives on! Join us for a hike back 15,000 years to an era when glaciers were in retreat and mammoths roamed. Discover how glaciers left their mark to create the Whitnall Park we enjoy today. Program starts at Whitnall Park Golf Course parking lot on 92nd St. \$10 per person, \$7 for Milwaukee County residents, \$5 for members. [Click here](#) to learn more!

Flavors of Fall Fundraiser

Saturday, November 12th, 5:00 – 7:30 pm

Savor the flavors of fall made from local Wisconsin products. A warm fire welcomes guests to a Wisconsin cheese tasting before the main tasting event begins. Fall-themed silent auction will help raise money for Wehr's Accessibility Project. \$25 per person. Please [click here](#) to make reservation or to learn more.



Please [click here](#) for the entire Milwaukee County Parks Event Calendar

Milwaukee County Free Days!

Complimentary admission to Milwaukee County residents ONLY with valid photo ID on the following days:



FREE the first **FRIDAY** of each month!

Free for all visitors. Visit mam.org for additional details.



"Thank You Thursdays" from 9 am-8 pm!

Free general admission to MPM on the first Thursday of each month. Visit mpm.edu for additional details.



2016 Free Days:
Oct. 8, Nov. 5,
Dec. 3

Special Holiday Free Days:
Thanksgiving, Christmas Day &
New Year's Day

Visit milwaukeezoo.org for additional details.



FREE on Mondays from 9 am-Noon!

Excludes major holidays. Visit milwaueedomes.org for additional details.

BOERNER CORNER

China Lights

Extended Through November 6th (Closed on Mondays)
5:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.

Celebrate Asian culture and experience Milwaukee County's Boerner Botanical Gardens brighter than ever! Now extended through November 6th! For more information, see the attached flyer, call (414) 525-5600, or [click here](#).

Thanksgiving Herb Class

Thursday, November 10th
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Chef John Smurawa will show you how to create healthy and flavorful Thanksgiving dishes using a variety of herbs! At the end of the demonstration, you'll sample each tasty dish and receive "quick tips" and copies of all the recipes covered in the class. For more information or to purchase tickets, [click here](#).

Winter Yoga Series

Every Wednesday, November 2nd – December 7th
6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Join *Barefoot Haven* as they lead beginner to intermediate classes in the historic Garden House. Register early; space is limited. [Click here](#) to learn more or to register.

Sunday Brunch

Every Sunday
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Zilli Hospitality Group welcomes you to Boerner Botanical Gardens to experience fine cuisine amid a spectacular natural setting. Introducing ZHG's Sunday champagne brunch year-round. The Garden Room's floor-to-ceiling windows bring the beauty of this horticultural showplace right to your table every time of year. For more information or to make your reservations, please [click here](#).